

Application No. 10/534,747
Amendment dated September 15, 2008
Reply to Office Action of May 14, 2008

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Amendments to the Drawings

The attached replacement sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 4, 5 and 6. These sheets, which include Figures 4, 5 and 6 replaces the original sheets including Figures 4, 5 and 6

Attachments: 2 Replacement Sheets

2 Annotated Sheets Showing Changes

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The specification has been amended with respect to new paragraphs 26.1, 26.2 26.3 and 26.4. These paragraphs describe the structure of the crest mounting portions and the crest forming parts that are clearly shown in Figures 4, 5 and 6. No new subject matter has been added to the application.

The claims in the application have been revised to include the particular cooperation between the crest forming parts and the crest mounting portions provided in the mold block. These crest forming parts include a projection which is received in an upwardly opening channel of the crest forming parts. This upwardly opening channel is located centrally between two adjacent troughs in the mold block. This structure simplifies the conversion of the pipe molding system for molding of pipe with different sizes of corrugation while maintaining the same maximum external diameter as the troughs of the mold block are integral therewith. The crest forming parts are secured to the mold blocks by attachment brackets that are recessed in the mold block at opposite ends of the crest forming parts.

In the preferred embodiment defined in claim 4, each mold block includes vacuum and cooling channels that have a fixed relationship with the integral troughs of the mold block. These vacuum and cooling channels are shown in the drawings as item 45. Initially, at an early stage in the molding process, these ports provide a vacuum force that is associated with the troughs for drawing of the plastic into the depth of the troughs. As these mold blocks continue down the moving mold tunnel, the plastic has effectively been drawn into the troughs and then these channels are then used for providing cooling air to further cool the pipe corrugations formed in the troughs.


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Other claims in the application are directed to the preferred securing brackets used to secure the crest forming parts to the mold blocks. This securement bracket includes a body portion with a first arm at one end for engaging the crest forming parts and an arm at an opposite end in contact with an associated recessed surface of the mold block. The brackets are secured by a bolt attachment.

In view of the above, we await the Examiner's review and consideration of the application.

Respectfully submitted,


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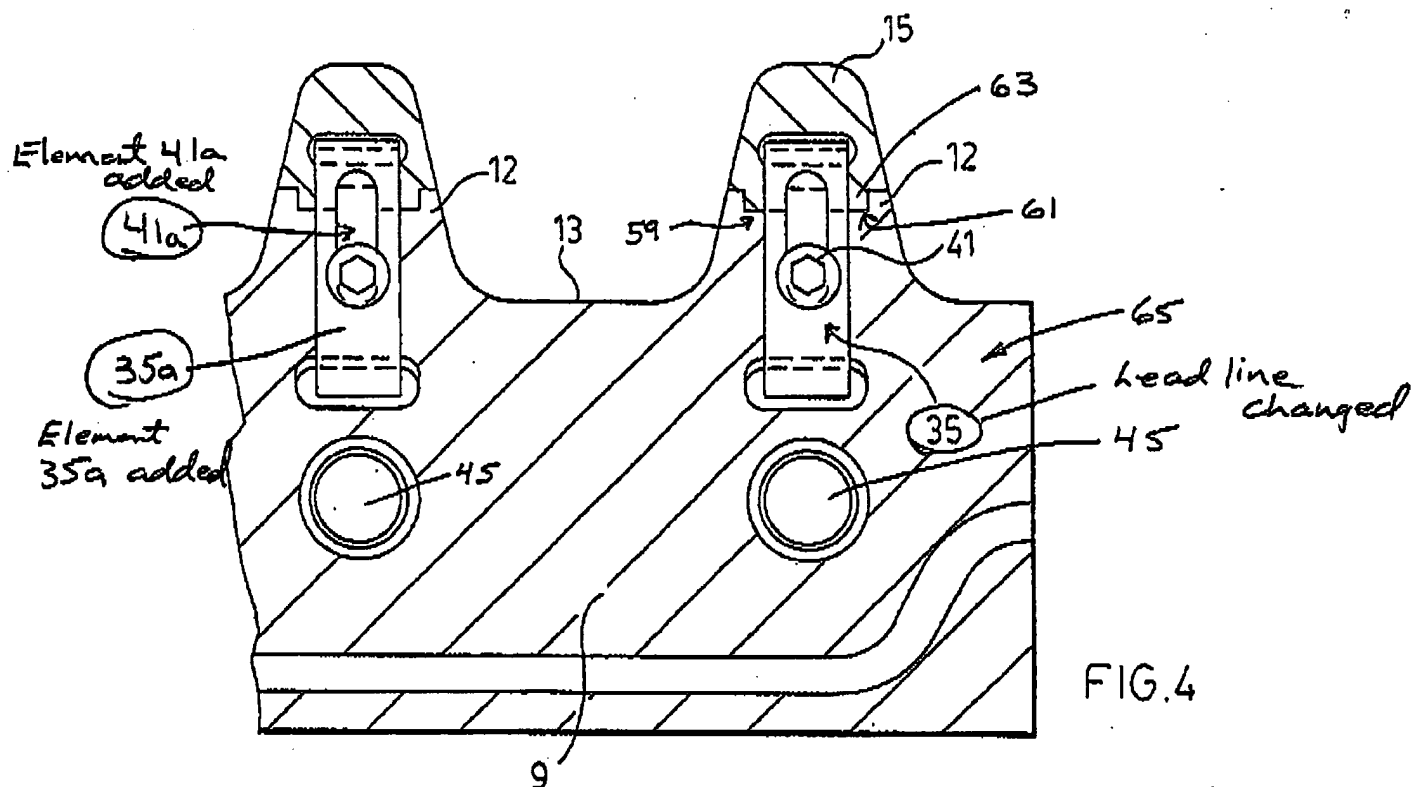


FIG. 4

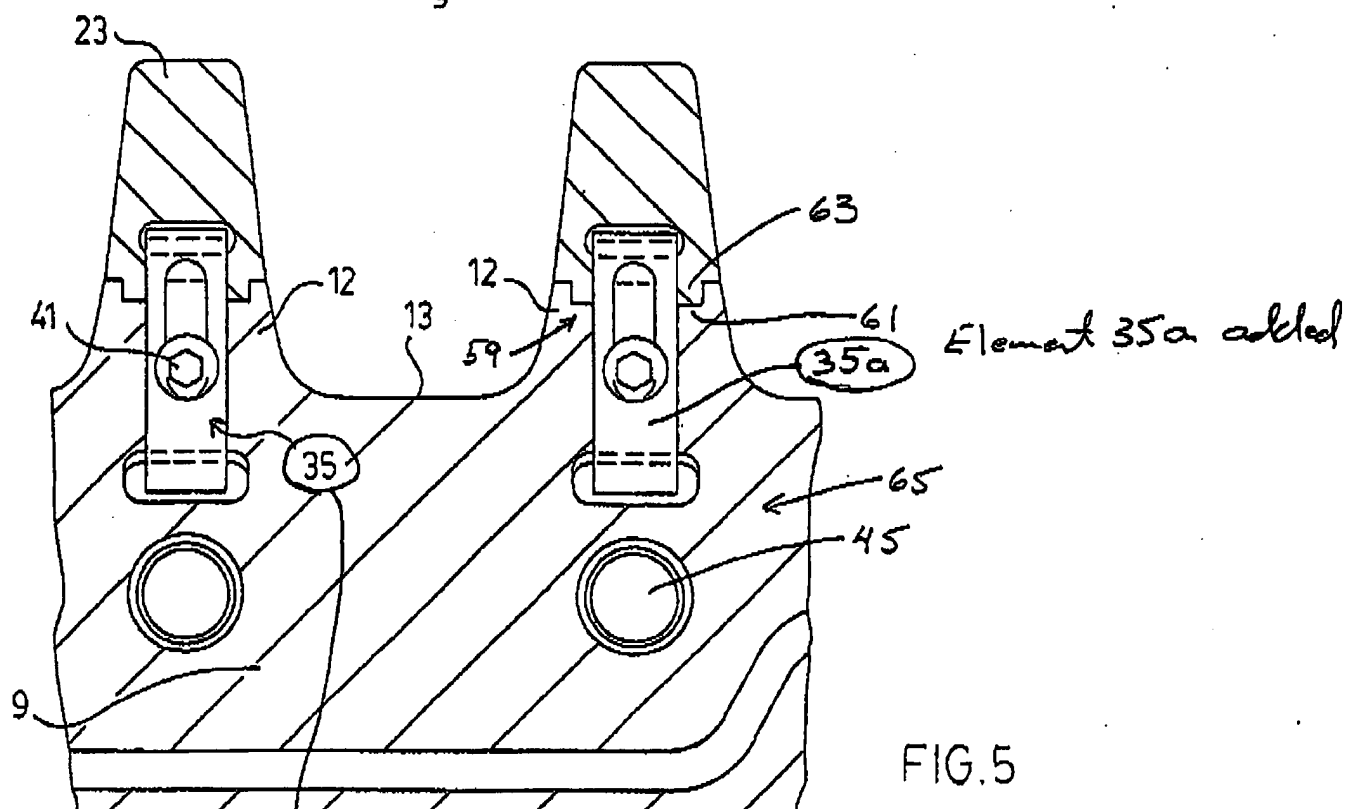


FIG. 5

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 Annotated Sheet

FIG. 6.

